

## Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March

We are looking forward to welcoming you all back to school on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. I am sure many of you are delighted that this will signal an end to home learning (for now at least) and will hopefully lead to a greater sense of normality. There are, however, probably some who will be a little anxious about the full re-opening of schools and that is also understandable. If you are, please do get in touch and talk through your concerns with me.

The key things you need to know in relation to the full opening of school are:

- **From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, pupil's attendance will be mandatory for all** (except any who are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable (anyone in this group will have been contacted by your GP and been told to shield until 31<sup>st</sup> March))
  - **School will operate in a similar way to the autumn term with children being in class bubbles.** These bubbles will be operating in their own classrooms and have an allocated space to play in when outside. There will be no mixing between bubbles while in school, including mixing of staff. In the past, staff have been used to cover the absence of other members of staff but the decision has been taken that it is unsafe to do this for the time being as it risks transmission between bubbles. As such, if there are not enough members of staff for a bubble to safely operate, then we will have no option but to close that bubble. There will be no assemblies / shared large events. For the three weeks up to Easter, the purpose will be to settle children back into routine and assess where children are up to, given their different experiences and engagement over the past 9 weeks. From the start of the summer term, as circumstances allow, we will seek to add in a wider range of activities (outside sports coaches / swimming / limited extra-curricular clubs etc)
  - **Breakfast Club and Kid's Club will operate daily** – as before Christmas, we will seek to get the children outside as much as possible and staff will be conscious of class bubbles to avoid mixing between pupils and members of staff. Please book sessions needed using the [office@ellel-st-johns.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:office@ellel-st-johns.lancs.sch.uk) email address (the booking form was emailed out last week).
- **Staggered drop-off and pick-up times remain as they were in the autumn term.**

Drop-off:

Time:	Classes:
8.40	Y2 and Y6
8.50	Y1 and Y4
9.00	Reception, Y3 and Y5

Pick-up:

Time:	Classes:
2.40	Y2 and Y6
2.50	Y1 and Y4
3.00	Reception, Y3 and Y5

### **Specifics:**

Y5 and Y6 - enter and exit through side gate on driveway and straight into class via fire door. No parents on driveway.

Reception – Y4 - enter via main gate onto playground and into classroom firedoor. Parents of younger children must maintain the **one-way system** at all times and exit via The Silks gate and path as soon as you have dropped your child off.

**FOR THIS SYSTEM TO BE SAFE AND EFFECTIVE, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU STICK TO YOUR ALLOCATED TIME SLOT.** Children may not be admitted to school until 9.10 if they miss their slot. As in the autumn term, we ask that all adults wear face masks when on school premises unless medically exempt.

The return of children to school is the first step on the path to a return to normality. However, the message from the Government which we are all obliged to follow is clear and is STAY AT HOME. Children should not be attending sleep-overs or parties at other children's houses until this is allowed as part of the unlocking of restrictions.

Many thanks for your continued support in all of these matters. We are really looking forward to seeing all your smiling faces on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March!

Yours sincerely

Mrs CM Thomas